

California Polytechnic State University

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Cal Poly RSVP Student Ensemble to Stage Modern-Day Opera at Cal Poly June 1, 3

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The Cal Poly Music Department student production ensemble RSVP will stage productions of “Oracles,” a modern-day opera seria (serious opera) with interjected humorous (opera buffa) scenes, on Tuesday, June 1, and Thursday, June 3.

The shows will be at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion in the Performing Arts Center.

The opera, according to music faculty member Antonio G. Barata, illustrates the power of love to transform things beyond what is normally imagined.

“The dramatic action uses the true-life story of Marie Therese Martin, also known as Therese of Lisieux, as an inspiration,” Barata said. “We find little Therese's commitment so powerful that it changes the hearts of those around her, even a notable criminal.”

The story is told on three parallel dramatic levels: the sung opera seria, the pantomimed opera buffa scenes and a narration.

“As with all RSVP productions, ‘Oracles’ will be a transmedia concert that celebrates electroacoustic diversity and compositional risk,” Barata said.

With the exception of faculty members Jesus Saiz-Huedo (guitar) in the role of Blind Love and Barata as the Prophet Narrator, all aspects of the show -- from music and props to scenery and costumes -- are created by students.

Tickets are \$10 and may be ordered online at www.pacslo.org or by calling 756-2787. The show is sponsored by Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts and Music Department. For more information, call the Music Department at 756-2406.

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